**Academic Tutor**

**Center for Supportive Communities**

**August 2025 – May 2026**

Center for Supportive Communities (CSC), a 501(c)3 nonprofit in Lawrence, KS, is now accepting applications for our 2025-26 Academic Tutor position. Are you an undergraduate or graduate student seeking real-world experiences that qualify for course credit or fulfill a service-learning or practicum/internship requirement? Are you looking to make a *real* difference in your community? As an Academic Tutor, you will play a critical role in supporting the academic success of K-12 students by providing one-on-one or small group tutoring sessions. Your guidance and mentorship will help students strengthen their understanding of core subjects, boost their confidence, and develop essential learning skills. This position is ideal for individuals dedicated to making a positive impact in the lives of young learners.

CSC encourages students from all backgrounds to apply. Ask a faculty member to sponsor your hours with CSC for course credit (e.g., [LA&S 490/EPSY 575: Internship Exploration](https://career.ku.edu/internship-exploration-enrollmentinterest-form-epsy-575las-490) or [UNIV 492](https://csl.ku.edu/students/creditcourses)).

**Position Contact**

info@supportivecommunities.org

**Position Title**

Academic Tutor

**Position Dates**

August 2025 – May 2026

**Time Requirements**

We require a minimum commitment of 2 hours per week. Tutoring sessions are held after school hours or on the weekends at a time convenient for you and the student and their family.

**Position Location**

Tutoring sessions are held in a public location in the community (e.g., public library, KU campus, coffee house).

**Position Responsibilities**

* Conduct weekly tutoring sessions in the community.
* Commit to a regular schedule to maintain consistency and build strong tutor-student relationships.
* Provide academic support in subjects such as Math, English, Science, and Social Studies.
* Provide academic support based on the student's grade level and needs.
* Incorporate accommodations in 504 plans and Individualized Education Plans (IEPs).
* Assist students in understanding and completing homework assignments, projects, and test preparation.
* Develop personalized tutoring strategies that cater to individual learning styles and abilities.
* Encourage and motivate students to build good study habits and improve their academic performance.
* Monitor student progress and provide feedback to parents, teachers, and program supervisors.
* Create a positive, supportive, and encouraging learning environment.
* Work closely with program supervisors, other volunteers, and school staff to align tutoring efforts with program goals.

**Required Qualifications**

* At least 18 years of age
* High school diploma or GED
* Good academic standing
* Knowledge or proficiency in core K-12 subjects (Math, English, Science, etc.)
* Valid driver’s license and car insurance
* Reliable transportation to and from weekly tutoring sessions
* Passion for education and a desire to help students succeed
* Patience, empathy, and strong communication skills to work effectively with students of diverse backgrounds and abilities.

**Preferred Qualifications**

* Previous tutoring or teaching experience
* Background knowledge in a human-service field (e.g., applied behavior analysis, psychology, social work, social welfare, special education, or counseling) or juvenile law
* Cultural competence

**Benefits & Perks**

* Course credit
* Tailored experiences that meet your interests, career goals, and educational requirements
* Flexible schedule that aligns with your academic calendar
* Career exploration and professional development
* Quality reference or letter of recommendation
* Website and social media recognition
* …and more!

**Application Process**

1. Complete our online application here: <https://form.jotform.com/250154644351148>.
2. Complete an interview with CSC.
3. If selected, you must complete onboarding paperwork, a health assessment and TB test, a comprehensive background check, and pre-service online training and orientation.

**Frequently Asked Questions**

**What is Center for Supportive Communities?**

Center for Supportive Communities (CSC), a 501(c)3 nonprofit in Lawrence, KS, is a recognized leader in true, evidence-based, individualized support. CSC’s mission is to use behavior science to create equal opportunities and meaningful change for children, families, and communities (e.g., education and legal systems, service providers). What makes us unique? We need to *see* success to believe it, and we aim for just that—observable change that promotes positive life outcomes.

**Who is Center for Supportive Communities?**

Kelsey Dachman, Ph.D., BCBA-D, LBA, and Madison Graham, M.A., founded CSC to help ensure all children exceed their potential. Dr. Dachman is a licensed and board-certified behavior analyst specializing in the prevention and treatment of challenging behavior common for children and teens with a unique focus in supporting justice-involved families. She holds a Ph.D. in behavioral psychology and master’s in applied behavior analysis from the University of Kansas’ Department of Applied Behavioral Science. Madison holds a master’s degree in applied behavior analysis and is currently pursuing her Ph.D. in behavioral psychology and master’s in public health administration at the University of Kansas. Rock Chalk! Directed by Dr. Dachman, CSC’s comprehensive team includes behavior analysts, social workers, certified volunteer administrators, researchers, graduate and undergraduate students, volunteers, and more!

**What does Center for Supportive Communities do?**

CSC specializes in restorative prevention and treatment strategies that strengthen systems and promote juvenile justice and community health. Services include consultation, behavior therapy, education and training, and community programming. SupportEd, CSC’s flagship program, is an evidence-based community diversion program offered to K-12 students and families as a restorative alternative to court involvement for truancy. SupportEd uses 1-on-1 mentorship, advocacy, and individualized interventions to help K-12 students and families overcome barriers to school attendance. SupportEd helps to ensure every child has access to education.

**SupportEd’s History**

SupportEd grew out of the University of Kansas’ Department of Applied Behavioral Science where it successfully operated as an undergraduate practicum course for over 40 years under the direction of Jan Sheldon, Ph.D., J.D. Following Dr. Sheldon’s retirement, her former students, Dr. Dachman and Ms. Graham, founded CSC to allow for the continued operation of SupportEd.

**Why Focus on Truancy?**

Truancy is a complex public health problem that requires a multitiered systemic approach grounded in evidence-based practices. First, truancy is a concrete and observable indicator that a child needs help. In most cases, truancy is just the tip of the iceberg, a symptom of underlying hardships like abuse, neglect, houselessness, bullying, social withdrawal, food insecurity, or youth violence. Second, truant children are at risk for negative life outcomes. When a child regularly misses school, they miss opportunities to develop essential life skills and positive relationships with caring adults and peers. This puts them at risk for social isolation, academic failure, drug and alcohol abuse, juvenile crime, school dropout, and adult unemployment and incarceration. Third, truancy is a legal issue that can pull children and families into the court system and subject them to punitive action. Ensuring all children receive a quality education is a critical first step toward breaking intergenerational cycles of school dropout, undereducation, violence, and incarceration.

**Where will I meet with K-12 students as an Academic Tutor?**

Tutoring sessions are held at a public location (e.g., public library, university campus, public park, school classroom, coffee house) in the community where your student lives. You are prohibited from meeting in private locations such as your home or the student’s home.

**Why should I choose Center for Supportive Communities?**

With over 40 years of experience supporting advanced students and faculty, CSC’s team of professionals is well-equipped to help you enhance your clinical, supervisory, and professional skills and increase your career readiness. We create unique and comprehensive learning experiences that meet your interests, career goals, and educational requirements. Through hands-on training and supervision working in multiple settings with a variety of professionals, you will build foundational skills that will make you a standout applicant for future job opportunities. Network with the top human service and legal agencies in KS while creating meaningful and sustainable systems-level change.

**Who should apply for the Academic Tutor position?**

We encourage students from all backgrounds to apply. This includes, but is not limited to, students studying general and special education, curriculum and instruction, arts and humanities, pre-med, Mathematics, applied behavioral science, psychology, child life, social work, law, community health, health sciences, public health and policy, communications, nursing, etc. The invaluable skills you will gain from this experience are applicable across fields and career paths.